CLAIM LISTING (CLEAN VERSION)

1. (Original) A video encoding method for providing control of an anti-copy protection mechanism for a video program, the video encoding method comprising an act of encoding at least one anti-copy protection code within closed captioning (CC) bandwidth of said video program.

2. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 1, said video encoding method further comprising the act of providing said video program.

3. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 2, wherein the act of providing said video program includes the act of authoring content of said video program such that the anti-copy protection encoding can be performed in conjunction with said authoring of content of said video program.

4. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 2, wherein in the act of providing said video program includes the act of receiving the video program as previously authored video content.

5. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 1, wherein said anti-copy protection mechanism is activated at least when a frequency of anti-protection encoding within said video program is greater than or equal to a predefined activation frequency, wherein the act of encoding at least one anti-copy protection code within the closed captioning bandwidth of said video program includes the acts of: determining certain portions of said video program which require anti-copy protection; generating anti-copy protection codes; and inserting anti-copy protection codes within CC bandwidth of said certain portions of said video program at a frequency greater than or equal to said predefined activation frequency.

6. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 5, wherein said anti-copy protection mechanism provides for multiple levels of anti-copy protection.

7. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 6, wherein said multiple levels of

anti-copy protection include a first level degrading subsequent copies of said video program

8. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 6, wherein said multiple levels of anti-copy protection include a severe level barring generation of subsequent copies of said video program.

9. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 6, wherein said multiple levels of anti-copy protection to insertion frequency ranges of said anti-copy protection codes.

10. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 2, said video encoding method further comprising the act of generating CC data suitable for encoding in said video program.

11. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 10, wherein said CC data is encoded into said video program prior to encoding said at least one anti-copy protection code prior.

12. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 11, wherein said anti-copy protection codes are inserted into said video program without analyzing said video program to determine whether CC data is encoded therein.

13. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 12, wherein said anti-copy protection codes are inserted into least used portions of said CC bandwidth.

14. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 11, further including the act of analyzing said CC bandwidth of said video program to enable the encoding of said anti-copy protection codes within unused portions of said CC bandwidth.

15. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 1, wherein said anti-copy protection mechanism provides for multiple levels of anti-copy protection.

16. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 15, wherein said multiple levels of anti-copy protection include a first level degrading subsequent copies of said video program

17. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 15, wherein said multiple levels of anti-copy protection include a severe level barring generation of subsequent copies of said video program.

18. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 15, wherein each of said multiple levels of anti-copy protection mechanism has a corresponding anti-copy protection code.

19. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 16, further including the acts of: determining certain portions of said video program which require anti-copy protection; determining a desired level of anti-copy protection for each of said certain portions of said video program; generating any required anti-copy protection codes; and inserting anti-copy protection codes within said certain portions of said video program as indicated by the desired level of anti-copy protection.

20. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 1, wherein said anti-copy protection mechanism is activated at least when a frequency of anti-protection encoding within said video program is less than or equal to a predefined frequency, wherein the act of encoding at least one anti-copy protection code within the closed captioning bandwidth of said video program includes the acts of: determining certain portions of said video program which do not require anti-copy protection; generating anti-copy protection codes; and inserting anti-copy protection codes within CC bandwidth of said certain portions of said video program which do not require anti-copy protection at a frequency greater than or equal to said predefined frequency.

21. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 1, wherein the video program is an analog video program.

22. (Original) A video encoding method as recited in claim 1, wherein the CC bandwidth utilized is line 21 of the vertical blanking interval (VBI).